Downet No.

SVL920010010US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Patent)

#2 L=3-0

Let've application of:

Hamel et al.

Serial No.: Filed: 09/912,586 07/24/2001 Group No.: Examiner: 2176 Unknown

Title:

OCT 1 7-2001

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 CFR 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 707.05(b) of the MPEP and 37 CFR 1.97-1.99, a copy is herewith submitted (attached to form PTO-1449, Rev. 7-80) of prior art which is considered to be pertinent to the invention as claimed in the above-identified application.

It is requested that the Examiner fully consider the art cited, initial the leftmost column of the attached PTO Form 1449 adjacent each cited reference, and return a copy of the Form 1449 for applicants' records. It is further requested that the art be cited on the cover of any patent issuing from the subject application.

The citation of the above references should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that other, more pertinent art is not available. Nor does this statement constitute an admission by applicant or applicants' attorney that the information provided herein is necessarily prior art to applicants' invention. Moreover, applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed documents should they be applied there-against as references.

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that the above paper/fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on 10/9/01.

Person mailing paper/fee:

Sandra M. Parker

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